

What is claimed is:

1. A method of performing a measurement on a biological fluid in a test strip comprising:
 - providing a biological fluid test strip including
 - a capillary fill chamber extending a length along the test strip from an intake opening to a terminus,
 - a first pair of electrodes in operative communication with the chamber, and
 - a second pair of electrodes in operative communication with the chamber;
 - dosing the test strip with a biological fluid effective to cause the biological fluid to flow from the intake opening toward the terminus;
 - applying a first test signal to one of the first pair of electrodes;
 - measuring a first response to the first test signal at the other of the first pair of electrodes;
 - maintaining the first pair of electrodes in an inoperative state upon the measuring the first response;
 - applying a second test signal to one of the second pair of electrodes;
 - measuring a second response to the second test signal at the other of the second pair of electrodes; and
 - performing a measurement upon the biological fluid after the measuring the second response.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the measuring the first response to the first test signal is effective to indicate a contact of the first pair of electrodes and the biological fluid.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the measuring the second response to the second test signal is effective to indicate a contact of the second pair of electrodes and the biological fluid.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the measuring the first response to the first test signal is effective to indicate a contact of the first pair of electrodes and the biological fluid and the measuring the second response to the second test signal is effective to indicate a contact of the second pair of electrodes and the biological fluid.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the performing a measurement upon the biological fluid includes applying a measurement test signal to one of the first pair of electrodes.
6. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a pair of measurement electrodes in operative communication with the chamber wherein the performing a measurement upon the biological fluid includes applying a measurement test signal to one of the measurement electrodes.
7. A method of indicating acceptable fill time of a biological fluid in a test strip comprising:
 - providing a biological fluid test strip including
 - a capillary fill chamber extending a length along the test strip from an intake opening to a terminus,
 - a first pair of electrodes in operative communication with the chamber, and
 - a second pair of electrodes in operative communication with the chamber;
 - dosing the test strip with a biological fluid effective to cause the biological fluid to flow from the intake opening toward the terminus;
 - flowing a biological fluid from the opening toward the terminus;
 - first determining when the biological fluid contacts the first electrodes;
 - second determining when the biological fluid contacts the second electrodes;
 - determining a fill time value based upon the first determining and the second determining; and
 - comparing the fill time value to a predetermined value.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

indicating an error condition if the fill time value exceeds the predetermined value.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

indicating an error condition if the fill time value is greater than or equal to the predetermined value.

10. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

performing a measurement upon the biological fluid if the fill time value is less than the predetermined value.

11. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

performing a measurement upon the biological fluid if the fill time value is less than or equal to the predetermined value.